

**The University of Tennessee
Office of Laboratory Animal Care**

Standard Operating Procedure

Title: Use of Pooled Animal Populations in Teaching and Research

Effective Date: August 17, 2006

Scope: Animal Care and Research Personnel

Outline of Procedures

The University of Tennessee maintains several pooled populations of animals that are used interchangeably in compliance with Federal, state, and university regulations and policies under various approved Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) teaching and research protocols. Inasmuch as the Federal Animal Welfare Regulations (9 CFR, Part 2, Subpart C, Paragraph 2.33) require the attending veterinarian of a research facility to have appropriate authority to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care and to oversee the adequacy of other aspects of animal care and use, the Office of Laboratory Animal Care (OLAC) has established the following guidelines for use of pooled animals.

1. An investigator after receiving notification of an approved IACUC protocol may request use of pooled animals by completing an Animal Transfer Request. This form can be obtained from OLAC or the laboratory animal facility manager. The completed form with all appropriate signatures should be returned to the laboratory animal facility manager.
2. Upon receipt of the completed Animal Transfer Request, the laboratory animal facility manager shall notify the attending veterinarian.
3. The attending veterinarian or his designee must sign and approve all Animal Transfer Requests. The attending veterinarian or his designee will review each animal medical record and give professional consideration to the previous and intended use of the animal. Assignment of individual animals to a protocol may be done by the attending veterinarian or designee in consultation with the principle investigator and/or facility manager.
4. Transfer of pooled animals between approved IACUC protocols is otherwise prohibited without expressed written consent of the attending veterinarian or his designee.